



Beetle Update

CITRUS LONGHORNED BEETLE ERADICATION PROJECT



Keeping Tukwila Residents Informed

INSIDE:

Tree vouchers	1
Planting Workshop	1
Keeping Watch	2
Chipper Days	2
Beetle Busters	2
Tree Cutting Done	3
Grant for planting	3
How to Reach Us	4

State agriculture officials provide tree vouchers to residents

One year after several citrus longhorned beetles emerged from imported maple trees and flew into the Tukwila landscape, the Washington State Department of Agriculture has completed two key stages of a long-term quarantine and eradication project to quash the destructive pest. Roughly 1,000 trees within a one-eighth mile radius of the CLHB escape site have been cut and chipped. Another 1,500 trees along the tree removal area's outer edge have been injected with insecticide.

To reduce the environmental effects of tree removal, WSDA has paired up with the Washington State Nursery and Landscape Association to help Tukwila residents replace trees as soon as possible. In recent weeks, eligible property owners whose trees were removed have received vouchers – coupons valued at \$50 or \$200 each. There are two ways to redeem coupons at a participating nursery:

Between now and the next 5 years, residents may apply vouchers to purchase trees, shrubs or other plants **not** known to be host vegetation for the CLHB. (*Note: If quarantine ends before Aug. 31, 2007, vouchers will be good for any vegetation.*)

SEE VOUCHERS, 3

An evening devoted to trees in Tukwila

Tree planting time is just around the corner. To help you visualize the possibilities with trees, WSDA is hosting **"Trees for Thought" — A Tree Planting & Landscaping Workshop**, Wednesday, Sept. 18. The workshop, which takes place at the Tukwila Community Center, is designed specifically for Tukwila

"Trees for Thought"

Featured Speakers

Ciscoe Morris, master gardener, arborist and KING5 TV personality, speaks on *Planting and Caring for Trees*.

Marty Wingate, master gardener, Seattle Post-Intelligencer garden writer, presents a talk on *Ornamental Trees and Companion Shrubs and Perennials*.

Allen Davenport, native plant steward, Washington Native Plant Society, delivers a slide show on *Landscaping with Native Trees and Shrubs*.

residents living in the citrus longhorned beetle tree removal and quarantine areas. The public at large is welcome to attend the free event. Featured guest speakers are master gardeners who will share their insights and expertise about planting and caring for trees, selection of native trees, and how to landscape yards with ornamental trees and shrubs. Come meet the experts, and get inspired.

The workshop begins at 7 p.m. and includes the opportunity to view live non-host trees — those not known to come under attack by the beetle. Speakers present at 7:30 p.m. and a question and answer session will follow.

Join the master gardeners for an evening devoted to trees in Tukwila. ❖

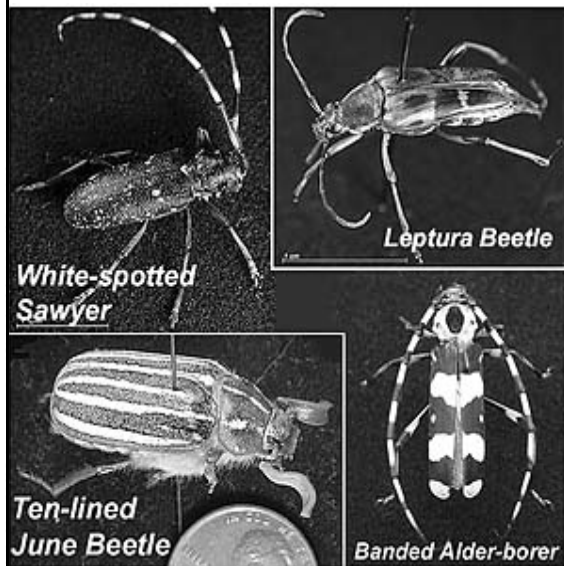
Visit our Web site for more information: <http://www.wa.gov/agr/CitrusLHBeetle.htm>

Send your questions and comments to clhb@agr.wa.gov

Keep watch for the beetle

The Tukwila quarantine is all about saving our trees. Between now and late November, survey crews with WSDA will be scrutinizing trees from the ground and in the canopy for signs of adult citrus longhorned beetles. We need all extra eyes on deck to watch for this creature. The people of Tukwila and Washington state are a vital part of *Beetle Watch*.

The look alikes



To view color photos of look-alike beetles (above) and the CLHB (right), visit <http://www.wa.gov/agr/CitrusLHBeetle.htm>. If you think you've seen the CLHB, write or call toll free: clhb@agr.wa.gov or (800) 443-6684.

The beetle, known as CLHB for short, is capable of decimating orchards, forests and urban landscapes. The agency's primary objective is to prevent the beetle from becoming established in Washington. This pest attacks more than 40 kinds of hardwood trees, including maple, cottonwood, alder and willow, and many fruit trees.

Today in Tukwila, we have an opportunity to prevent the enormous losses — emotional, financial and ecological — the CLHB is sure to inflict on our communities, if we do not stop this insect in its tracks. In recent months, vigilant residents have



Citrus Longhorned Beetle

shared suspected beetle sightings and photos. Look-alike beetles have often been mistaken for the offending culprit (see photo, left). Take a few minutes to study the differences between the native look-alike beetles and foreign one.

We need your cooperation, support and good eyes to stop this pest. ❖

Chipper Days: Easy way to dispose of tree, shrub prunings



To help residents who live in Tukwila's quarantine area dispose of woody yard waste, the Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the City of Tukwila has been sponsoring "Chipper Days." The free event is held every third Saturday of the month, 10 a.m to 1 p.m., at Foster High School, 4242 S. 144th St.

The quarantine, established in November 2001 to prevent the possible spread of the citrus longhorned beetle, restricts residents from using conventional means of disposal or transporting plant material that may be infested. Chipper Days is a convenient way for those living within a one-half mile radius of the original beetle escape site to dispose of woody yard waste. Only the prunings of particular hardwood and fruit trees — vegetation that comes under attack by the beetle — are accepted at Chipper Days. Tree and plant species not under quarantine can be disposed of as usual.

If you take advantage of Chipper Days, be ready to present a driver's license or utility bill for proof of Tukwila residency. We **are unable to accept** wood or prunings from evergreen trees, grass, leaves, or other yard waste not on the host vegetation list, lumber and fence posts, painted or preserved wood and material with rocks, dirt, or metal fasteners. A detailed list of host plants is in the quarantine language posted on the WSDA Web site. If you cannot bring tree limbs and prunings to a Chipper Days event, contact the program at (800) 443-6684 to make other arrangements. ❖

TREE VOUCHERS: Residents have two options

FROM PAGE 1

By Sept. 30, 2002, residents may use vouchers to order trees as part of a bulk order for tree purchases only. By ordering trees in bulk, individuals will receive a discount. Residents have their choice of any species on the non-host list (see Web site). Under this alternative, trees will be available this October/November or March/April, 2003. In addition, residents can make arrangements for WSDA personnel to deliver and help plant these trees.

Those eligible for the voucher program should be aware of the following:

- If you receive more than one voucher, you may combine their value;
- It's possible to combine a voucher with personal funds;
- Vouchers may not be transferred to other people;
- Vouchers can neither be redeemed for cash nor replaced if lost or destroyed;
- "Change" can't be made if the plant(s) cost less than the voucher's full amount.

To view a suggested list of non-host trees and shrubs, as well as a list of participating nurseries in the greater Tukwila area, visit WSDA Web site's at <http://www.wa.gov/agr/> and click on citrus longhorned beetle. ❖



Tree vouchers may be used for Japanese Zelkova, shown above, or many other non-host species.

Beetle news bites

If you would like to learn more about the Washington State Department of Agriculture's efforts to prevent the citrus longhorned beetle from becoming establishing in our state, visit the WSDA Web site, <http://www.wa.gov/agr/> and click on citrus longhorned beetle. If you have questions about the quarantine area, tree surveying or Chipper Days, call (800) 443-6684. ❖

NEXT CHIPPER DAY

When: Saturday, September 23, 10 am to 1 pm

Where: Foster High School, 4242 S. 144th St.

NOTE: If you cannot bring yard waste to the school, call (800) 443-6684 to make other arrangements.

Ag beetle busters survey trees

Starting early September and through November, survey crews will inspect Tukwila trees for evidence of the CLHB. The survey takes place in the one-half mile insect quarantine zone. During the next three months, crews will inspect trees from the ground as well as from canopy level. To adequately detect the presence or absence of the beetle, it may be necessary to remove bark and limb samples. ❖

Contractor, state crews cut all trees in 1/8th mile area

By August 2, and just three weeks after tree-cutting commenced, state agriculture personnel and contractor crews had removed all host trees in the greenbelt, along Interstate-5 and on residential properties within a one-eighth mile radius of the original beetle escape site. ❖

Tree injection effort complete

Just two weeks later, WSDA had completed injecting another 1,500 trees with an insecticide. Tree injections, that took place on the outer edge of the tree cutting area, will provide trees that are not infested by the citrus longhorned beetle with a level of protection. The insecticide used in the injection is called Imicide with the active ingredient

Grant received for replanting greenbelt.

In late August, the United States Forest Service approved a \$90,000 grant to WSDA for non-host trees and other vegetation to restore the greenbelt and right-of-way areas in the one-eighth mile tree removal area.

imidacloprid. After Imicide is injected directly into the tree, the tree's circulatory system moves the pesticide into the living tissues, such as the leaves, twigs and the region under the bark.

Once a tree has been treated, any adult beetle that feeds on the leaves and small branches will be killed. Imidacloprid, which affects the insect nervous system, poses very little risk people, birds or animals. ❖

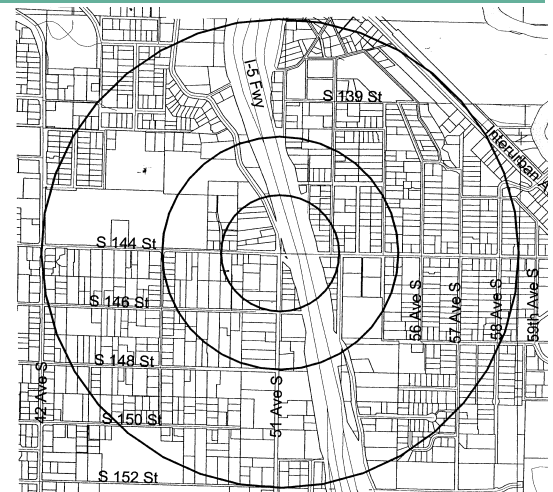
Inside Beetle Update: Tree removal, injection completed ... Sept. 18 workshop features local celebrity

In the beginning there were eight

Slightly more than one year ago, — August 2, 2001 to be exact — as many as eight tree-destroying pests known as citrus longhorned beetles were unwittingly introduced into Washington. The stowaway beetles arrived inside several trees that were part of a shipment of 369 bonsai maple trees delivered to a Tukwila nursery. Three insects were captured in Tukwila, including a female ready to lay eggs. Another beetle was seen flying away from the nursery toward a stand of trees. Eight “exit holes” were discovered, indicating that five beetles had escaped. This exotic and destructive pest lives most of its life inside the wood of a tree. When it reaches maturity, the beetle exits the tree by burrowing through the wood.

The arrival of the beetle, known as CLHB for short, is the first and only time it has been caught out-of-doors in the United States. The CLHB kills more than 40 species of hardwood and fruit trees. If a full-blown infestation of the beetle occurred in Washington, it would devastate urban landscapes, forests, orchards, and wildlife habitat, resulting in untold economic losses and detrimental environmental impacts.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture is hard at work to stop a beetle infestation. State officials, following the recommendations of a scientific advisory panel, instituted a quarantine in November 2001. The quarantine, combined with recent tree removal and tree injection efforts, figure as the only proven ways to quash the pest before it becomes established not only in Washington, but the Pacific Northwest as well. ❖



Tukwila Quarantine Map
Inner Circle: Host Tree Removal & Chipping
(1/8th mi radius)
Middle Ring: Tree Injection (100 meters from the
outside of inner circle)
Outer Ring to Center: Survey & Quarantine (1/2 mi radius)

How To Reach Us

For more information, visit the Web site at <http://www.wa.gov/agr/CitrusLHBeetle.htm>
Questions and comments may be sent to clhb@agr.wa.gov OR call the program toll-free at (800) 443-6684.